

# BOARDING NEWS

FRIDAY 16 JUNE 2017

ISSUE 2

## Introduction

As to be expected, a lot has happened since the Boarding News was last published. The inevitable excitement leading up to and during the Annual Easter Dinner is always a boarding highlight of the calendar. Hockerill was delighted to be able to have access to the Boarding Schools Association ‘Boarding Bus’ for a few days and we had some interesting feedback about the possible lay-out of future bedrooms. Robin Fletcher, the Chief Executive of the BSA paid us a visit and I am pleased to report that he was impressed with our boarding students and our boarding community. We wish our IB Graduands well as they move on to their next exciting chapter – they will always be welcome back to Hockerill to visit and to keep us informed. Good luck to our Year 11 students who are in the midst of their GCSE examinations and I hope that they use the rest of their time wisely to maximise their potential. Many of our younger boarders will be experiencing language trips and exchanges and I know that they are looking forward to these incredible opportunities.

Natalie Pierrejean, Director of Boarding

## NOTICES

### Term Dates and Timings for Lent Term 2017

#### Saturday 17/Sunday 18 June - Exeat Weekend

1600hrs Friday 16 June  
Returns Sunday 18 June from 1800 - 2000hrs

#### Wednesday 4 July - End of Term

1300hrs  
Late House: Winchester

#### Monday 4 September -

All Year 7 and Year 12 Boarders arrive from 1630 - 1800hrs

#### Tuesday 5 September -

Term commences for all Year 7 and Year 12 students.

Return of existing and any new in-year Boarders. Other years and overseas boarders arrive from 1600 - 1930hrs. UK boarders arrive 1800 - 1930hrs.

#### Wednesday 6 September - Term commences for all

#### Saturday 23/Sunday 24 September - Exeat Weekend

1600hrs Friday 22 September  
Returns Sunday 18 June from 1800 - 2000hrs

## WEEKEND PROGRAMME

### Events for the Summer Term:

The weekend programme offers a wide variety of activities to suit the varying interests of the students. Students are encouraged to take part in as many activities as possible.

### 24/25 June

Boarders BBQ & Garden Games  
Winterton Beach

### 1/2 July

Speech Day Weekend  
Rollerworld Quaser

## Boarding Orchard

On Tuesday 25th April we welcomed Robin Fletcher, CEO of the Boarding Schools Association, to plant a tree for the Virtual Boarding Orchard. The Boarding Orchard was launched by the BSA in 2014. It aims to be the largest orchard, by distance, in the UK and involves boarding schools joining the orchard by planting trees in their grounds. The trees symbolise the ‘tree of knowledge’ and demonstrate each school’s commitment to growth and caring for the environment. Since launch, schools across the UK - including Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland - have joined The Boarding Orchard, and trees have also been planted at boarding schools in Switzerland and the USA. Robin also took the opportunity to visit the Boarding Houses and speak with both staff and students about Boarding at Hockerill.



Mrs Faiers, Deputy Head of Durham House

## Rugby Winners

Jacob, Edward, Alex and I all play rugby together for Epping Upper Clapton Rugby club. Since Jacob, Edward and Alex had arrived at our club, they had made a substantial impact to our team; so much so that we won our league convincingly as well as the Essex Waterfall cup – we had to play every team in Essex. As our team is (now) one of the strongest teams in our league we weren’t afraid of any teams as we knew our teamwork and skills would get us through all the league matches. Once we had beaten the rest of the competition, it came down to our last game the decider to up a league. But obviously (as I said earlier) we won with Jacob and Alex both scoring two tries each and Edward always charging the forwards and setting up the tries, and of course, me assisting most of our team’s tries. We won the game 42 – 12 and that gave us the points we needed to go up into league 1.

With the Waterfall cup, we didn’t know we were playing in a cup and just played the games for fun and for practice for our league games. Once we found out how well we were playing in the cup we were so surprised, and we were even more surprised when we won the cup. We weren’t surprised about winning but the fact that the other team was cheating so they didn’t play us and we won by default.



Matthew Ericson, Thames House

## Hyde Park

Last weekend, we set out on a trip to Hyde Park. The weather was predicted to be cloudy, but our day out was filled with sunshine, ice cream and a picnic by the Serpentine. After a short ride on the coach into London, we arrived at Hyde Park and were greeted by a beautiful view of the river. We started with a pedalo hire and spent an hour pedalling in the gentle breeze with the sun shining on us and with the occasional inquisitive swan passing us. After that, we found a comfy spot in the shade and set up the picnic. Smiles and sandwiches created an amazing atmosphere and we all had a wonderful time.



Toyin Odusan, Winchester House

## Mersey Island

The trip to Mersey Island is one I will never forget, there was so much to do and you were never sitting there wishing you didn’t come because you were always doing some crazy challenge. During the first section we were all sent over to the rock climbing area. There we were climbing up and down multiple routes on the walls each wall had a boulder that stuck out of the wall that made the challenge a little bit harder. After that section we moved over to the adventure course this was the best part we had to overcome each task in our specific teams. Each team had a bucket full of water that we had to carry through each obstacle which made it much trickier. We had to go over and under in and out in order to complete each one. Once we completed all the tasks we were taken around through this passage where it led us to our final challenge. It was cold it was wet and most of all it was muddy. We had to jump in to the pit full of cold, icy, wet mud and climb over and under these two logs in order to finish the task. It took all your strength and will to complete this because the adrenaline said yes but your mind and heart said no. You knew you had to do this once in a life time experience but once you’re there. there is no turning back. Over all I really enjoyed this trip and I hope that we can go again next year.



Gabriel Osmond, Canterbury House

## Eurovision Karaoke

On Saturday 20th May the Boarders celebrated Eurovision with a Karaoke night in the Sixth Form Centre. As always Holroyd Howe came up trumps with a magnificent Eurovision themed cake. The students were a little reticent to start with but under the leadership of Emilie Fung they soon started singing (thank you Emilie). I can’t honestly say that all of the singing would have been approved of by Mr Bond but they thoroughly enjoyed themselves!! Having had to beg them to start singing by the time the evening drew to a close they were clamouring for the last song.



Mrs Faiers, Deputy Head of Durham House

## Rugby Winners

On Saturday 22nd April, Bishop’s Stortford RFC played away at Exmouth needing just four points to be crowned champions of Nation League 2 South and win automatic promotion to National League 1, the third tier of English Rugby. Mr Michel of Durham House was playing for the 2nd XV and Thames House’s Mr George for the 1st XV, also captained by Canterbury House’s Acting Head of House, Mr Coleman. Given such representation by Hockerill staff, it was unsurprising that many of the Canterbury boys eagerly received my updates on the score as I kept track of what was happening down on the Devon coast. It was not long before it became clear that the result was going only one way and BSRFC won the league in style winning 60-7. The following evening, we decorated Canterbury with blue and white paper-chains and balloons, gathered in the Common Room, and phoned up Mr Coleman. As he arrived, all the boys cheered and clapped and gave him high-fives. I am sure that it will live long in his memory as we all celebrated an astonishing victory in what is Mr Coleman’s last season playing for Stortford. He has now hung up his boots after finishing off his last match, at home, with another victory and a try under the posts!



Mr Dinwiddy, Deputy Head of Canterbury House

## Thames Experience

I have always lived and studied in Italy, more specifically in the mid-north of the country, in the city of Florence. As little as a year ago I would have never thought that I would find myself in a UK school, because I decided to study abroad just last August, and I sent my IB application in half way through the month.

I was extremely lucky. Thanks to some unknown force of fortune, I was accepted by Hockerill Anglo-European College and I couldn’t ask for anything better. The boarding house is a completely different atmosphere and context, but Thames makes it all so simple that you don’t even realise how fast time flies, Christmas came... then went... so quickly!

Boarding has been amazing so far and that’s thanks to the people that work in Thames and the boys I share that building with, that now I can be proud to call home.

Lorenzo Mori, Thames House

## Easter Dinner

This year’s annual Easter ball was incredibly successful and everyone definitely enjoyed it, we especially loved the Bouncy castle, surfing simulator, gladiator fight, photo booth and basketball shootout just as much as the actual party in St Albans Hall. As a full boarder and Deputy House Captain of Canterbury House this was by far my favourite weekend this year and I’m sure I could say the same for all my friends who attended the Black tie ball. The disco was incredibly fun and I had been waiting for it since the start of the year as it was also one of my favourite from last year. Hockerill boarding always out do themselves every year on this special weekend as not only full boarders take part but are joined with weekly and day boarders. It is safe to say that this year’s annual Easter ball was AMAZING!



Massimo Garofano, Canterbury House

## Rope Runners

As a weekend trip, the full boarders went on a rope runners trip near the secret nuclear bunker. It had 6 rope runner courses, 2 on the ground, 2 very high up and 2 in the middle of the others. There was also a large zipline on the side of the tower where you climbed up to enter the courses, next to that there was something they called the leap of faith. It was where you climbed up a large pole and stood on a small platform and jumped off. You had a rope that slowed your fall when you reached the bottom. There were also ziplines at the end of each of the courses that weren’t on the ground. These were great fun, I fell over when I landed on one of them and scraped by back. My jumper took two washes to clean after that. The whole boarding house enjoyed this, I think they all went. I very much recommend this trip to anyone who has not been, I will probably go again.

William Bloomfield, Canterbury House